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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

TAKAFUMI HOSHIZAWA ET AL : EXAMINER: S. A. CHANG

SERIAL NO: 09/619,672 : GROUP: 3625

FILED: JULY 19, 2000 :

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
KEEPING CONSUMABLE ITEMS
IN AN IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated November 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice Claim 7.

Please amend claims 1, 11, 12, 17, 20, 21 and 23 as shown in clean form below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached.

1. (Amended) A consumable item keeping system, comprising:

a consumable item keeping apparatus configured to store a variety of consumable

items at a user side;

RECEIVED

FEB 07 2003

GROUP 3600